

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 - 10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended): An ink let recording apparatus comprising:

a recording head that jets ink drops to record,

a carriage adapted to be loaded with a plurality of detachable ink containers each of which stores ink to be fed to said recording head, wherein said carriage reciprocally moves with said recording head, and

a communication unit including a single antenna for communicating with storage elements which are provided with said ink containers, respectively, said communication unit being able to communicate with said storage elements provided with said ink containers not only when said ink containers are loaded on said carriage, but also when said ink containers are not loaded on said carriage,

wherein in a state that one ink container of said ink containers is loaded on said carriage, said communication unit is able to communicate with one storage element of said storage elements for said one ink container only when said one storage element ~~for said ink container~~ is brought close to said communication unit, said communication between said communication unit

and said one storage element ~~for said ink container~~ being enabled at least during a portion of said reciprocal movement and,

wherein in a state that said one ink container is not loaded on said carriage, said communication unit is able to communicate with said one storage element ~~for said ink container~~ only when said one storage element ~~for said ink container~~ is brought close to said communication unit to such a distance that said one storage element ~~for said ink container~~ is able to communicate with said communication unit in the state that said one ink container is loaded on said carriage.

12. (currently amended): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said communication unit communicates with said one storage element for the one ink container in a non-contact state.

13. (canceled).

14. (currently amended): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein power is supplied to said one storage element for said one ink container in a non-contact state.

15. (currently amended): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein information within said one storage element for said one ink container can be rewritten and stored in said one storage element at least via said communication unit reading and writing.

16. (previously presented): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 11, further comprising a storage element for said recording head installed in said recording head for storing information concerning said recording head, wherein said communication unit communicates also with said storage element for said recording head.

17. (previously presented): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said communication unit communicates with said storage element for said recording head in a non-contact state.

18. (previously presented): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said communication unit communicates also with a storage element for a recording medium installed in a package of storage medium to be recorded by said ink jet recording apparatus.

19. (previously presented): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein said communication unit communicates with said storage element for said recording medium in a non-contact state.

20. (currently amended): An ink jet recording apparatus comprising:
a recording head;

a carriage, which reciprocally moves with the recording head and on which a plurality of ink containers are detachably mounted, wherein the ink containers comprise memories, respectively; and

a communication circuit including a single antenna that communicates with the memories provided when the ink containers are mounted on the carriage and when said ink containers are not mounted on the carriage,

wherein, when one ink container of the ink containers is mounted on the carriage, the communication circuit communicates with one memory of the ~~memory~~ memories when the carriage moves the ~~storage element~~ one memory close to the communication circuit.

21. (currently amended): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein said communication circuit communicates with the one memory in a non-contact state.

22. (canceled).

23. (currently amended): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein power is supplied to the one memory in the non-contact state.

24. (currently amended): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein the communication circuit can read information from and write information to the one memory.

25. (previously presented): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein the recording head comprises a head memory that stores information concerning the recording head,

wherein said communication circuit communicates with the head memory.

26. (previously presented): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein the communication circuit communicates with the head memory in a non-contact state.

27. (previously presented): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein a recording medium that receives information recorded via the recording head is stored in a package,

wherein the package comprises a recording medium memory, and

wherein the communication circuit communicates with the recording medium memory.

28. (previously presented): An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the communication circuit communicates with the recording medium memory in a non-contact state.